

ORAL QUESTION H-0691/02

for Question Time at the part-session in October 2002
pursuant to Rule 43 of the Rules of Procedure
by Per-Arne Arvidsson
to the Commission

Subject: The right of Serb refugees to return to Slovenia and Croatia

At present there are refugees in Bosnia-Herzegovina who, after the peace deal, were not permitted to return to their home countries, Slovenia and Croatia. This applies to 2500 Serb refugees – about 1200 families – from Slovenia whose return would apparently not be welcomed, and 30 000 Serb refugees from Croatia whose fate is the same. The prevention of their repatriation is making it impossible for Croat and Muslim refugees within Bosnia to return to their homes and farms in the Serb part of Bosnia.

What pressure has the Commission brought to bear in the membership negotiations with Slovenia to facilitate the repatriation of these Serb refugees?

What efforts have been made to persuade Croatia to allow Serb refugees to return to their homes, particularly in Knin province?

Tabled: 09.10.2002

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